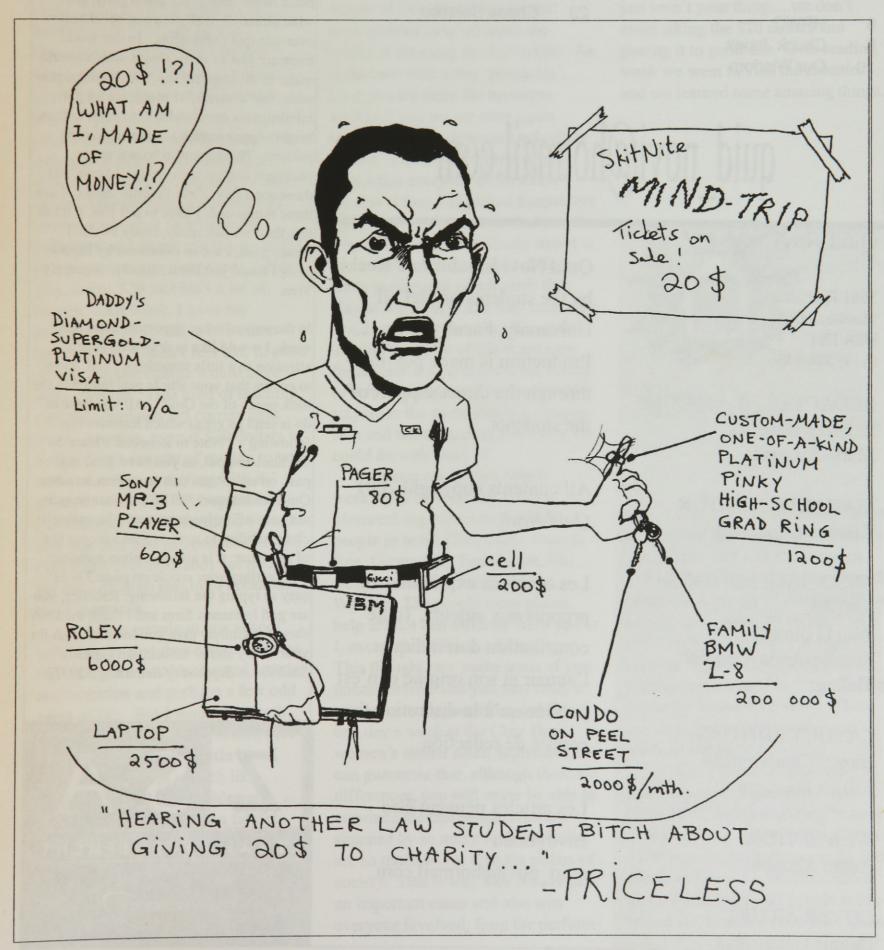
# Quid Novi

McGill University, Faculty of Law VOLUME 22, NO. 18



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### Quid Novi

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### **Editor's Note**

Dear friends,

Today, while making my way to the *Quid* office, I realized something of great importance which I would now like to share with all of you. Gosh, golly, gee-whiz, though, it's just so overwhelming, I'm not sure where to begin.

The world in which we live is a super-duper place to be. Did I say gosh, golly, geewhiz already? Well, you can never really over-use that expression. In this world there are just so many things which should make us all stop and say "Gosh, golly, geewhiz, that's swell." I mean, we've got raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens, bright copper kettles and warm-woolen mittens. There are also brown-paper packages tied up with string. I know that these are a few of my favorite things. I see these things and, I have to tell you, I think that they are just really, really swell. I mean, gosh, I am so overcome by happiness, I could just burst. Really. Sincerely Vern.

In the way of other important news this week, I would like to draw everyone's attention to a little something I call "How to ensure that your article gets buried in the back pages of the Quid". All you have to do is send an email which includes the following - "Note to Rebecca: Please do not blurb me out, as you have done in the past, on more than one occassion, to other Quid contributors." This little message is not only offensive because of the author's clear inability to spell or make proper use of grammar; it is also just plain moronic. FYI: getting your article on page 3 is as easy as typing the following: Rebecca, you are god in human form and I think the LSA should definitely give you loads of cash for your truly stellar association - Law Students in Support of Reuniting NKOTB.



# What is \$20 Worth?

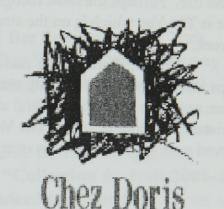
by Lawna Hurl, Skit Nite Co-chair

ne hundred percent of the proceeds of Skit Nite go to charity. 100%. Tickets are \$20. What is \$20? Metro ticket \$2.25, Coffee \$1.00, Sandwich \$3.75, Coke \$1.00, Photocopies \$2.75, Chips, \$1.00, Movie \$8.00 (on a Tuesday night): total \$19.75. For some of you this kind of spending in a day is not extraordinary. For others this is outrageous and you are the people who don't like to eat out unless there can be separate bills otherwise you have to remember to bring your calculator and figure out the tip to the penny, you people worry me. Either way, today, \$20 just isn't a lot of money. Last week, I gave my roommate \$20 to take a late video back because I didn't feel like it, even though the late charge would have been 75 cents. That kind of thinking probably explains my current debt level. Anyway, even if \$20 dollars is a significant amount of money to you and you cringe at parting with it, consider what \$20 can buy others. For example the Generations Foundation can take \$20 and purchase 1,000 (yes that's one thousand) hot meals for area children that miss breakfast most mornings.

Many people in law school would agree that they arrived here as the result of a combination of smarts and ambition and perhaps a few odd turns of life. But I would put forth that every single student is also here as a result of at least a little bit of luck. Not the kind of luck like finding a \$5 bill on the sidewalk when you're nagging for a falafel, I'm talking more about 'order of the universe' kind of stuff. The good fortune of being born in or currently residing in Canada, a country with lots of faults, but certainly a decent

place to live. The opportunity to have a solid education that brought us to McGill's Faculty of Law. The ability to pay for this education, even if through student loans. A varying degree of friends and family that have enabled us to all reach the height of attaining this institution. As is the case with many 'pinnacles', once you are there the mystique wears off and we are once again reminded that nothing and nobody is perfect. I am not someone who thinks that everyone could attain success if they just picked themselves up by their boot straps, in fact people who think this are obviously stupid or ignorant. People are given different cards to play and which cards they play at which time and why cannot be considered in a vacuum. Recognizing that the game of life is not easy for anyone is a no-brainer, but acting to help those who are having trouble staying in the game shows a compassion and understanding that everyone could do with more of.

Once again, Skit Nite is working to raise money for five Montreal organizations that help people in need: Chez Doris, Dans la Rue, Generations Foundation, Old Brewery Mission and Share the Warmth. The people these places help are not that different from you or I, except the kids are a bit younger. This thought may make some of you uncomfortable and you may deny it wholeheartedly, but after spending one day a week at the Chez Doris women's shelter since September I can guarantee that, although there are differences, you will never be able to convince me that people who are shunned by so many for their faults are so much worse than the pillars of society. This is why Skit Nite is such an important cause and also why everyone involved, from the performers to the co-chairs, buy tickets.
Come to Skit Nite, watch your
professors sing and your colleagues
dance and donate that \$20 for good
luck. And if law faculty functions
just aren't your thing....we don't
mind taking the \$20 dollars and
putting it to good use. Over reading
week we went to visit the charities
and we learned some amazing things.



Chez Doris is a downtown day centre in Montreal providing women with a non-judgmental safe environment. The staff provide breakfast and lunch as well as a variety of activities from sewing and singing to crafts. The philosophy of the house is that it belongs to the women and, as such, women are responsible for a clean up job in the house after lunch. There are also clothing give aways and medical and legal assistance.

Chez Doris is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Open since 1977, last year alone Chez Doris had over 18,000 visits for over 2700 women, including over 28,000 meals and over 11,300 information and referral calls. 67 people volunteered at Chez Doris last year, giving

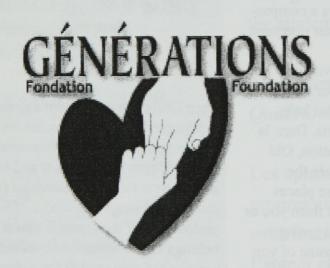
over 7000 hours. There were also 20 students who gave a total of 1880 hours of their time.



ORGANISME AU SERVICE DES JEUNES SANS-ABRI AN ORGANISATION SERVING YOUTH ON THE STREET

Since 1988, Dans la Rue has been helping kids living on the streets of Montreal. Services include the Chez Pops Day Centre where kids can have a meal, take a shower and get medical care. The Centre includes art, music and computer workshops as well as socio-economic reintegration programs and an alternative high school. Dans la Rue also operates The Bunker, which is a temporary shelter from the dangers of street life. Perhaps the most recognizable aspect of Dans la Rue is The Van which is on the streets of Montreal five nights a week.

Last year, Dans la Rue had over 40,000 visitors to Chez Pops and served almost 38,000 meals. The art and music room saw over 3600 visitors and almost 1000 kids received assistance in finding work. The Van and its 70 volunteers, served over 112,000 hot dogs over the same period.



Founded in 1999, the Generations Foundation provides over 26 schools and centres all over the Montreal area with meals, snacks, milk, clothing and other necessities. By the end of 2002, over 45,000 hot meals will have been provided. Generations also sponsors educational field trips to kids who otherwise would not have the means for this kind of hands on

learning. Over Christmas over 3,000 toys were distributed and the 2002 Summer Camp Program hopes to sponsor 500 children to go to the Laurentians.

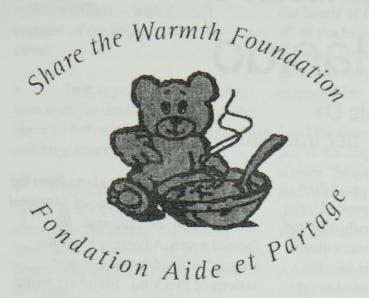
Generations also supports the Second Start program which allows children to eat breakfast at a table in a more familial environment which is often a first step to addressing further problems.



Since 1889 The Old Brewery
Mission has been providing services to
Montreal's hungry and homeless. Clean
safe shelter, nourishing meals, proper
hygiene and access to medical and social
services are just some of the goals of the
Mission. Facilities include the 315 bed
men's shelter, the Patricia Mackenzie
Pavilion exclusively for women, La Maison
Roger Beaulieu which is a transition house
for clients, many of whom are in job
training programs and Camp Chapleau in
the Laurentians.

The Old Brewery Mission bus provides hot soup and emergency assistance as well as transportation to shelters. In the year 2000 the Mission served over 363,000 meals and provided 123,000 night's lodging. Less than 20% of funding

comes from government sources.



The Share the Warmth Foundation prepares and delivers breakfast, lunch and snacks to over 21 schools and community centres daily. They also run a mobile food bank that delivers to the elderly or disabled who are not able to come to the centre. The Foundation helps in Point St. Charles, Little Burgundy, St. Henri and Verdun.

Another service is the Unity Teen Centre which provides a safe environment for teens to gather and grow under the expert guidance of centre staff. The Second Hand Shop collects and sells good quality donated clothing which also serves as a training ground for community members to learn 'selling skills'. The proceeds of the shop go to the Unity Teen Centre.

# Help Skit Nite

Skit Nite is just around the corner, and some positions for the day of are still available. If you have limited time, but would still like to volunteer to help a good cause, I am looking for 4-5 ushers who can take tickets and show people to their seats. Once the show starts, your job is pretty much over, except for keeping an eye on things to make sure nothing gets wildly out of hand. A few of you have stopped me in the halls over the last couple of weeks expressing an interest, but I need to have an email confirming availability. Please send a note to klajoie@sprint.ca

Thanks, Karen.

# Gear Up for the Annual Skit Nite Silent Auction!

While on the MindTrip, stop by the Silent Auction table to place a bid. We have thousands of dollars worth of items that have been donated. All proceeds will go to Skit Nite charities.

The following is a sneak-peek at some of the prizes that you could win with the right bid.

McGill Computer Store
1 Palm Pilot
Value \$400

Salon La Coupe 1 \$50 gift certificate

Musée Des Beaux Arts de Montreal 2 tickets to an exhibition in April

Bar Bri Bar Review of New York

Enrollment in a Bar Review Course for any Eastern
U.S. State (including New York)

Value: \$995US

Ecole de Barreau du Quebec

Certificate for the "Collection de droit 2001-2002", the
11 volumes of required texts for the courses at l'Ecole
du Barreau du Québec

Value: \$400

Sucrebleu, 1741 St. Denis

1 Deluxe Candy Basket

Just for Laughs Comedy Festival 2 Club Series Tickets to a show

Boutique Nevik

1 \$500 Gift Certificate

Ritz Carlton Hotel **Traditional English High Tea for Two**Value: \$50

Selected Artwork by Patrick Meagher Value: Priceless

Don't miss out on the bargains! Make sure to come by and get your ticket for MindTrip today!

# Responses to the murder of Digna Ochoa y Plácido

by Jameela Jeeroburkhan and Janina Fogels U1 (special thanks to Jessica Saloman, U2, for her translation)

n 19 October, 2001, Mexican lawyer and human rights advo cate Digna Ochoa y Plácido was murdered at her office in Mexico City. The assassins left a note by her body that threatened her former colleagues at the Miguel Augustin Pro Juarez Human Rights Centre (PRODH) where she had previously worked. Ms. Ochoa dedicated much of her career to representing social activists, including environmentalists and antiglobalization proponents, and was honoured with awards from Amnesty

International and the American Bar Association. Her work revealed how the Mexican army repeatedly violated the civil liberties of Mexican citizens. Human rights defenders in Mexico and internationally responded to the death by calling on state leaders to condemn the murder and to pressure the Mexican government to conduct a thorough investigation and implement effective measures to protect the lives of other social justice advocates.

Here at the Faculty of Law, McGill's Human Rights Working Group

(HRWG) responded to alerts from the Social Justice Committee of Montreal and Amnesty International. We formed a new Advocacy portfolio charged with addressing urgent actions of this kind. Members wrote to various officials in the Mexican government, Canada's Secretary of State for Latin America and Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the UN Special Representative for Human Rights Defenders. In the letters we stressed the following:

That the Office of the Attorney General of the Federal District

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Be Bold.

(Mexico City) investigate the death of Ms. Ochoa – rather than the Federal Attorney General, who is a military officer – with the full support of the Mexican government;

- That anyone tried in connection with the death of Ms. Ochoa be done so before a civilian, not military, court;
- That a national inquest be set up in Mexico to identify and dismantle the groups supporting these acts of violence against human rights defenders and social activists;
- That the Mexican government comply with the request of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights to take protective measures to defend the lives of those still in danger: members of the PRODH and the lawyers Pilar Noriega Garcia, Barbara Zamora Lopez and Leonel Rivera Rodriguez.

We also implored the Canadian government to take the following action:

- To publicly denounce the assassination of Digna Ochoa and the threats against other Mexican human rights advocates;
- To logistically assist the Mexican government in taking measures to implement the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders of which all UN states are subject.

This term, we received one response from each government. The following are the main excerpts translated from the letter of the Mexican Minister of the Interior's Office (dated 14 December, 2001):

[...] It is with this purpose that I inform you of the Federal Executive's active condemnation of the

murder of Digna Ochoa y Plácido lawyer and human rights defender. As a consequence, the Executive has put in the hands of the competent authorities all of the human and material support required for a prompt elucidation of the facts and the punishment of those responsible.

[...] the Executive has intervened to put at the disposal of the Human Rights Centre "Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez", and of other persons and organization dedicated to the defence of human rights, security when solicited.

Additionally, on behalf of the President of the Republic, and in response to the concerns of diverse human rights organizations, there has been installed within the Ministry of the Interior a working group for the promotion and protection of human rights. The working group's purpose will be to engage in a dialogue with organizations and provide an analysis of the most pertinent themes in this area.

With regard to the forgoing, let me reiterate that the Federal Executive shares your concerns and demonstrates its firm commitment to the promotion and defence of human rights, as well as to those who work for such an important cause, such as the non-governmental organizations whose activity is fundamental to the democratic development of Mexico [. . .].

The response from the office of Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister was longer and more detailed, but here are some of the main parts (dated 25 January, 2001):

[...] On October 22, 2001, the Canadian Ambassador to Mexico met with the Mexican Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs to express our sorrow and to convey Canadian concerns for the safety of human rights defenders. He also stressed the need for Mexican authorities to establish the facts surrounding the case and to be forthcoming, to the public, as information becomes available. Officials at the

Canadian Embassy in Mexico City continue to monitor developments.

On November 11, 2001, [former] Minister Manley met with Foreign Secretary Jorge Castañeda and National Security Advisor Adolfo Aguilar Zinser in New York City. Messrs. Castañeda and Zinser informed Minister Manley that while the case was not under federal jurisdiciton, the federal government was nonetheless following the case closely. In fact, President Vicente Fox has ordered all federal government agencies to cooperate with the office of the Attorney General of Mexico City, which has been charged with the investigation. More recently, officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) and the Embassy met with the Under Secretary for Human Rights and Democracy, Mariclaire Acosta, and the Director of the Centro de Derechos Humanos Miguel Augustin Pro Juarez (PRODH), Edgar Cortés. This meeting provided another opportunity to express Canadian concern for this and other human rights cases, as well as to reinforce the need to protect human rights defenders in Mexico.

Impunity and adherence to the rule of law continue to be the biggest challenges to improving the human rights situation in Mexico. Canada recognizes that the Government of Mexico is taking this issue very seriously and at the highest level. President Fox's appointment of a Special Prosecutor to look into the disappearances and human rights violations of the 1970s and 1980s is an important step towards eliminating impunity.

[...] We have also encouraged and assisted cooperation among independent institutions such as our respective [Canada's and Mexico's] Human Rights Commissions and have increased our efforts in international forums dealing with human rights such as in the United Nations.

[UN Special Representative on Human Rights Defenders] Mrs. Jilani, along with human rights defenders from across Latin America, participated at a meeting held in Mexico City in June 2001, for which DFAIT provided funding. We believe funding such events, as well as working directly with the Mexican government on issues of social development, federalism, and public access to information, provide valuable assistance in strengthening democratic institutions and promoting good goverance fundamental elements of a truly respectful and orderly society [...].

As the HRWG members who wrote the letter, we were generally pleased to receive these responses, particularly the news that the Federal Attorney General, General Macedo de la Concha, would not be heading the investigation into Ms. Ochoa's death. While he was Attorney General of the Mexican Army, General Macedo allowed numerous reports of human rights violations committed by military officers against the civilian population to go uninvestigated. The working group now established within the Ministry of the Interior is also a positive response. However, time and continued scrutiny will tell whether Ms. Ochoa's murderers are brought to justice and the lives of other human rights defenders better protected as a consequence of her tragic death.

# Chuck Jones, 1912-2002

by Stephen Panunto, Law II

piece of my childhood died last week when Chuck Jones, legendary cartoonist and the creator of beloved characters such as Bugs Bunny, Tweedy Bird and Wile E. Coyote passed away. Jones won three Academy Awards and an Honourary Oscar for life achievement, was an original member of the Animation Hall Of Fame and his mini-Epic, What's Opera, Doc is recognized "among the most culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant films of our time".1 Of all the television programs I have ever watched, Looney Tunes has had by far the greatest impact on me (and this is no small feat, considering how many hours

of my life I have wasted in front of that contraption). As much as I love and worship TV, I especially love cartoons. While I may be trapped in an

adult's body, I am still ruled by my inner child. (Want proof? Ask Shalini about my unhealthy knowledge of *The Simpsons*, and how I can repeat dialogue verbatim.) But you always remember your first love - and I have been watching Looney Tunes and Merry Melodies for as long as I can remember. I've been to Bugs Bunny Cartoon Festivals (which evidently is too low-brow for Park Cinema to play anymore. No wonder they go out of business every couple of years). I even went to a "Sex and Violence" Cartoon Fest at Café Campus - which included a slow-motion close-up of Bugs' "package" - I swear I am not kidding; I have witnesses. I had a three-foot stuffed Bugs Bunny in my room for years, until I foolishly decided I was too 'mature' for it (as if). I also had a smaller stuffed recreation of my favourite character, Wile E. Coyote, which I unwisely gave up,

My attachment to these cartoon

characters was the primary reason why my family got our first VCR. It was, in fact, a shameless bribe on the part of my parents. See, Bugs Bunny and Friends was on Saturday mornings at 11am. But my parents wanted me to go to Italian School from 9 to 1 every Saturday. So both my sister and I pleaded desperately until we finally wore down my exhausted parents; we didn't manage to escape completely, but a compromise was finally struck - they bought a VCR, and we went to Italian School. Well, I know who got the better end of the bargain. We went to Italian school for a couple of years, but I'm sure I learned more from Wile E. Coyote than from Italian classes (as my father and grandmother love to remind me).

# The Roadrunner never directly hurts the coyote, and he himself is never hurt.

But then again, there is a lot to learn from Looney Tunes. Until I took Latin in high school (ahh, Jesuit education), my knowledge of the subject was limited to terms like "Acceleratii Incredibilius" and "Eternalii Famishus". Today, besides that phrase in the Moot Court, that's about all the Latin I can remember. Plus, I learned Roman numerals in order to find out what year all the cartoons were made (and that it is still the only practical application I have found for such knowledge.) Above all, I truly believe that watching Wile E. Coyote provides invaluable moral guidance to young viewers. Just look at how I turned out. Think about it: Wile E. is never hurt by anything other than his own ineptitude and greed. So, in other words, he reaps what he sows, and gets what he deserves. The Roadrunner never directly hurts the coyote, and he himself is never hurt. Roadrunner always manages to outsmart Wile E., not outmuscle him, and seems to have immeasurable confidence in himself.

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or at least his legs. Hence the fact that he'll stop in the middle of a deserted road to eat birdseed when he knows he's being lured into yet another trap. Also, the coyote always tries to take shortcuts, by ordering some kind of gizmo from Acme - and they invariably fail to live up to their promise. This teaches both that there are no shortcuts in life, as well as a valuable lesson in selecting consumer goods wisely. But perhaps Wile E.'s most important lesson is to never give up. He's been chasing that arrogant little bird since 1949, and has failed to catch him even once. He's been blown up, hit by trains, trucks, airplanes, has fallen off every cliff and been crushed by every boulder and piano in the Southwest, and he still keeps chasing after that fleetfooted fowl. If I have half his determination I might just get through law school. Plus that desert dog is virtually impervious to pain and

seems to escape death at every cliff: both qualities I'd like to develop.

Aside from what I've learned from them, they are also themselves quite intelligent. As much as it is idiomatic to say that the best cartoons work on different levels, it is true. I remember watching one cartoon when I was in high school, the one where Bugs is in Ancient Rome, trying to escape Elmer Fudd and a visit to the Coliseum in the role of a Christian (and when Fudd is in the Lion's Den, Bugs lowers down an alarm clock and wakes up the lions, who proceed to tear only Fudd's shirt, but not skin; but that makes as much sense as having an alarm clock in ancient Rome, I guess). Anyway, at one point in the background you see a mountain with a sign saying Mt. Vesuvius. And, of course, at the end, it erupts. I would never have gotten the reference when I was 8, but by the time I was 16 I did. (I consider it

more than a bit ironic that a Mt. Vesuvius reference is probably the only thing I remember from *Latin* class, when it is really a fact of *history*.)

Jones was an idol to me, and quite simply, a genius. Partly this was because he had an artistic talent I could only dream of having. He wrote, directed and produced cartoons that were at once absurd, insightful and hilarious. He had immense wit, and a dark sense of humour that I appreciate – which is why I prefer Looney Tunes over the politically correct, squeaky clean, homogenized Disney cartoons. (Actually, Jones worked for Disney for a year – I assume he came to his senses since he returned to Warner Bros.) Someone once asked me which I prefer, Warner Bros. cartoons or Disney. No contest. I can identify with Marvin the Martian's heightimpairment, short temper and

scepticism of the worth of humankind. I tend to act like the Tazmanian Devil when things don't go my way, plus my apartment usually looks like he tore through it. But most importantly, Bugs had a cool catch-phrase and could kick Mickey's do-gooder ass. And he looks better in a skirt than Minnie.

So what is my favourite Looney Toon? Well, I'm glad you asked. It was a Wile E. Coyote and Roadrunner cartoon (I don't remember the title). Wile E. was once again attempting to catch the Roadrunner, this time by attaching a spring between two boulders, with a trampoline below, in an effort to catapult himself towards the road fowl. But the result of his predictable failure was not just simply falling off a cliff or being crushed once by a boulder; no, thanks to the springs between the boulders and the perfectly placed trampoline, he was time and again crushed between a rock and a hard place – every time you thought it had ended, some law of physics kept it going. This battery lasted at least a full minute – a considerable time. since the short-films themselves usually only lasted 5 minutes or so. But of course, Wile E. was right back up chasing that damn bird. (Why did he want to eat that wiry little bird so badly anyway? The Roadrunner is all legs and neck with a relatively tiny body; hardly seemed worth the effort to me – but then again I spend my youth virtually motionless in front of the television.)

Today, my inner child mourns the loss of one of the great influences on my life. Without him I might have learned Italian (unlikely), but I surely would have learned a lot less about life.

One last time, for you Chuck: That's All Folks!!!

# Against Our Will Comes Our Wisdom

by Michael Arnot, Law II

Even in our sleep
Pain which cannot forget,
falls drop by drop upon the heart
until, one day in our own despair
Against our will
Comes wisdom
By the awful grace of God.

Aeschylus

oday, Friday March 8, 2002 was the bloodiest day in the last 17 months of violence in Israel. Some 110 people have been killed this week. With a population of about 6 million, that's on a scale similar to the September 11th tragedy.

And now it is time to write.

While the pages of the Quid have been quite full of this debate in the past (which in my opinion, was not an attempt at dialogue, but a big piss fight) I think it is appropriate that law students discuss the issue.

So I will now throw in my humble opinion.

### DISCLAIMER:

Before I begin, my friends and colleagues who have talked about this issue with me in the past know very well that I believe there are mistakes made by both sides in the conflict, that both sides are in the wrong, and that there is enough blame in this conflict to go around for years. On a Friday just before the Quid deadline, I can assure you that this article is probably not politically correct, nor have I assessed whether it contains the right amount of "Israel is mean, but so are the Palestinians" - "Palestinians are mean, but so are the Israelis" rhetoric to satisfy everyone. Frankly, I don't care. Who can piss furthest is not the subject of my

argument.

hat can
Canada do to
help?
In what has
been referred to
as good-cop, bad-cop, Prime Minister
Chretien and Foreign Minister
Graham combined to be impotent on
this important issue, through two
separate speeches on Wednesday.
Chretien said:

"There is nothing in our experience that can capture the fear that Israelis now live with every hour of every day, whereallowing your children to go to a pizza parlour or a disco or just to play in the park can be a choice between life and death."

Iin an earlier speech on Wednesday, fulfilling a bad cop role, Bill Graham, Canada's new Foreign Affairs minister gave a speech to the Canadian-Israeli Council. In a highly publicized speech, many in the audience were dismayed, if not angered by his words. In one highly criticized example, Graham said that Canada's open and friendly relationship:

"Enables Canada, as a friend of Israel, to question, even in the tense situation that prevails in this very difficult time, certain practices that we do not believe contribute to peace. Innocent civilian casualties, regardless of their background or religion, are not justifiable and ultimately compromise Israel's image as a vital and compassionate nation, as well as undermining the hopes of Palestinians and instilling bitter-

This Information was taken from www.cerbslair/.com/ltcc/crash\_course.html (aka The Looney Tunes Crash Course) and www.chuckjones.com. Just in case anyone cares. That and because I think this qualifies as "fair dealing", so I don't violate anyone's copyright.

ness—prejudicing the prospects for a fair-minded peace."

I agree with both statements. I empathize both with Israelis, living in constant fear, at a state of war with their neighbours, and striving to find a better life for their children, and with Palestinians, who have little or no rights, no homeland and who have suffered a far greater casualty rate since the resumption of violence almost 2 years ago.

Being a non-biased observer of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and as a good Canadian, I liked the Mitchell report, and Bill Clinton's efforts to seek a lasting peace in the area. I believe strongly in the importance of the Israeli state. The security of Israel with its neighbours must form part of any lasting peace. At the same time, I believe strongly in a Palestinian state, formed along the lines of the negotiations in the summer of 2000 between Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Ehud Barak. That would imply, of course, that Israel should be guaranteed security in its borders - namely

that the final settlement is the end of the denunciation of the Israeli factor in the Middle East. I thought the idea of Jerusalem as a capital of two nations was a very original and good faith attempt to seek peace - balancing the desires of Israelis and Palestinians to control their holy sites. Clearly the issue of Jerusalem was a main sticking point, with Barak putting his neck on the line through this type of settlement, which included substantial Palestinian control of east Jerusalem. And in the end, nothing came out of it. Arafat, wrongly and unwisely, in my opinion, rejected this attempt at getting to Yes. In a Machiavellian coup (in the negative sense of that phrase) Ariel Sharon orchestrated his return to power in September 2000, deliberately exasperating a tenuous situation. For his own ambition.

And now, 1,200 deaths later, the worst of strategies to deal with the problems involves, as Bill Graham noted, "certain practices" (namely, targeted assassinations which kill women and children as collaterals, re-engagement of the settlements, knowing full well the repercussions, demolition of civilian housing by armed forces, violence at refugee camps; generally a disproportionate response.) The best excuse to defend this response goes something like this:

"Israel is under attack; our people live in fear of terrorism. We must defend ourselves against terror campaigns waged against our people."

Read that last sentence out loud, and pretend you are a Palestinian Authority spokesman. Eerily familiar, no? It is classic tit-for-tat. A spiral heading downward.

"We must defend ourselves against terror campaigns waged against our people."

It is the language of revenge.

As such, I would propose that:



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MONTRÉAL

1) SHARON SHOULD BE LESS A HAWK AND MORE AN OWL Israel must take a lead in de-escalating the violence. It is a member of the great international community--and the reactionism of late does not, as Graham has alluded to, promote goodwill, peace and the promotion of Israel as a peace-loving nation. It is clear that the Palestinian side is something akin to a fire hose on full blast shooting in all directions, with

Better to deal with the person you know, rather than the people you don't. And he is the only one with any kind of political capital to even get close to a ceasefire. That is the immediate goal. Only then can you address the deeper issues like the madrasas, incitement of terrorism, a lasting peace. How do you get there? You can't by pointing a bigger fire hose in the Palestinian direction. A step that would go a long way to turning down the pressure would be

> to stop using tanks to destroy houses, and cease the building of Israeli settlements, which are

possibly the most enraging factor for Palestinians. As George Mitchell suggests: Confidence building.

# Canada should be onside with peace.

no one holding the hose. The goal is to turn down the water pressure. Arafat has little to no credibility, but there is hardly an alternative to him.

### 2) CANADA SHOULD GET OFF THE FENCE

Canada should take a lead on the international scene. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister should structure a wellbalanced approach to the conflict, not some impotent lines written by Chretien's speechwriters. This requires a re-evaluation of its foreign policy approach to the Middle East. I would argue that Canada should avoid pandering to narrow interest groups on either side, and call a spade a spade. I applaud Graham for speaking up to highlight Canada's concerns with certain practices, though I believe that if you are going to criticize Israel for its misgivings, a balanced approach is necessary. Clearly, however, Canada cannot be onside with either camp. Canada should be onside with peace. That implies constructive criticism, whether it be well received or not by special interest voting blocks.

Good for

# 

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Canada's policy should focus on concrete solutions, and not platitudes and rhetoric empathizing with either camp. Each side is this dispute has their position, which Canada can only influence, but clearly cannot change. All parties, when you move above their negotiating positions, have an interest in peace. We were closest to peace prior to September 2000. Perhaps we should attempt to move up the peace process by formulating a position to the Saudi Crown Prince plan, and suggesting alternatives. Above all, we need to be more active. If that means Bill Graham speaking out, so be it. It does not have to be (and probably would never be) Jean Chretien himself. If Javier Solana of the European Union can have a role, so can we. And we should bring our approach to the table, as we have very significant Arab and Jewish Canadian citizens.

3) PRESSURE THE UNITED STATES TO SEND COLIN POWELL AND GET INVOLVED

Given our close relationship with the United States, I believe Canada should be pressuring the United States into sending Colin Powell to bring the two sides to a yes. Not Anthony Zinni, the US envoy, but Colin Powell. Ever heard of Anthony Zinni? Zinni frankly does not have the political capital to sway the two sides.. I do not believe there is anything wrong with the proposals that Zinni has considered (in light of the Mitchell Report), but Powell brings political capital to the table. Maybe it is time that George W. Bush should get involved – he has, after all, some good advisors, like Colin Powell.

Hopefully cooler heads will prevail, such as Shimon Peres who said "I am convinced that sooner or later—and better sooner—all of us will recognize there is no alternative but to return to the table of negotiation, and part from the bloody battlefields that do not produce solutions." Israeli politics makes it such that the dove - Shimon Peres - is less appreciated than the hawk - Ariel Sharon. And that is understandable. If your friends were killed at a disco, or at a pizza parlour, you would want revenge.

Just like the Palestinians crave the same revenge when the gunships come down upon Palestinian areas. Remember that little boy who was killed by the IDF - when his father couldn't shield him from the bullets?

These things don't make people angry. They make people cry for revenge.

Let us pray that cooler heads will prevail. Let us hope for wisdom, soon.

# F:/ Drive Again

by Michael Saba. the computer guy

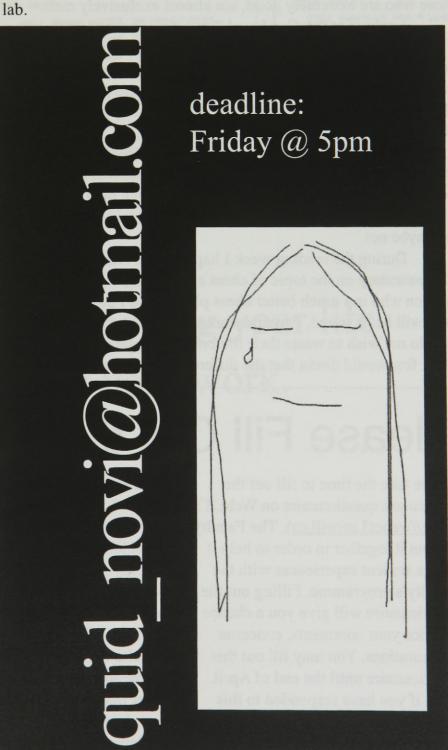
Please have in mind that the F:\ drive or "My Documents "on your computer desktop is a temporary storage and not a permanent storage.

Unfortunately, due to a space limit on our server, this F:\ drive is restricted to 13 MB per user (around 9 diskettes).

We are planning to increase user's space in the future but, for instance, try to save only relevant information on your F:\ and do not forget to "clean" it from time to time.

You could always transfer files to diskettes (one click, edit, and copy, open A: ,edit, paste). Once saved on your A: drive and you are sure that you don't need it, delete this file.

For assistance, please stop by Michael's office in the computer lab.



# Chess Corner

by Pablo E. Bustos, Law III

n my last year of high school, I became obsessed with chess. I had played all my life, but in my last year of high school, during a soon-to-be obsolete phase in Ontario's high school system called grade thirteen, I did not have classes in the afternoon, and thus I usually played chess all afternoon and usually for most of the evening, everyday, except on the weekends when I was able to play all day.

I primarily played speed chess, which, as the name implies, is faster than regular chess. I also went to several chess clubs and cafes. Not once did I see a female in any chess club, and only occasionally did I see them playing chess in cafes.

This perplexed me then, as it does now. There is nothing particularly manly about chess. However, it seems that those who devote a large part of their life to chess, or those who are extremely good, are almost exclusively men.

Looking at the Combined Top 100 – January 1999 FIDE and WCC Chess Rating Lists, which is available online at <a href="http://www.ishipress.com/comb9901.htm">http://www.ishipress.com/comb9901.htm</a> (date accessed: March 7, 2002), it appears that the top 100 chess players are all men. A women has never been a world champion of chess.

In a previous article on the motto of Chile I pointed out that the vast majority of the prison population is male. I believe this reality has much to do with the way men think. Similarly, maybe chess is more suited to the brains of men, or maybe not.

During the reading week I happened to stumble across a commentary on the topic of chess and gender, written by a women who is a much better chess player than I probably ever will be. It stated, Perhaps women are not so competitive and do not wish to waste their life on a board game, but I think few would doubt that the difference between the sexes

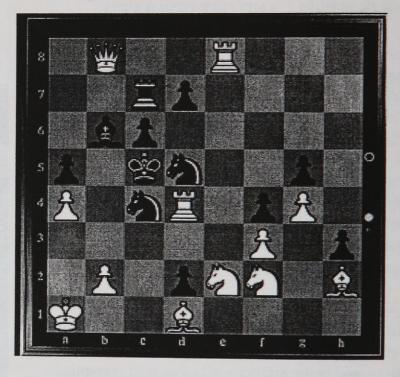
is a real thing that is mental as well as physical.1

It's something to think about, although some of the people who read my weekly chess corner are female. I hope I haven't discouraged them to keep reading my problems.

The problem in this Chess Corner was reprinted with permission of Sterling Publishing Co. Inc., c/o Canadian Manda Group, Toronto, Ontario from 200 CLASSIC CHESS PUZZLES by Martin Grief, © 1993 by Martin Grief.

<sup>1</sup> Lalic, Susan. *Your Chess Questions*. (Exeter, U.K.: Polestar Wheatons Ltd., 1999) pg. 54.

White to play and mate in two moves.



Solution on back inside cover.

# Please Fill Out the Curriculum Survey

Please take the time to fill out the curriculum questionnaire on WebCT3 (<a href="http://webct3.mcgill.ca">http://webct3.mcgill.ca</a>). The Faculty has put it together in order to help it assess student experiences with the Faculty's programme. Filling out the questionnaire will give you a chance to voice your comments, concerns and questions. You may fill out this questionnaire until the end of April. Even if you have responded to this questionnaire before, we would appreciate it if you took the time to

do it again this year.

Les réponses et commentaires fournis demeurent strictement confidentiels. Les résultats seront utilisés par le Conseil de faculté et par le Comité du programme dans le seul but d'évaluer dans quelle mesure les objectifs pédagogiques de la Faculté ont été atteints et, ainsi, d'améliorer le programme. Veuillez noter que le questionnaire n'existe, pour le moment, que dans sa version anglaise.

The questionnaire is accessible to you through the WebCT central access page called MyWebCT. To get to the questionnaire, just follow these quick and easy steps:

- 1. Go to http://webct3.mcgill.ca
- 2. Click on "Login to myWebCT"

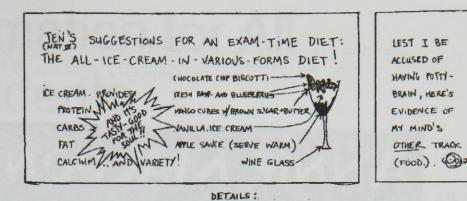
### 3. Type in your User Name

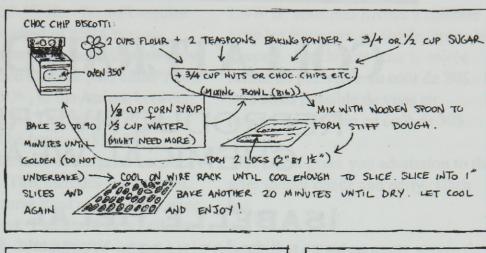
- Your username is your permanent McGill e-mail alias, which follows the convention of firstname.lastname in lowercase letters (e.g., james.mcgill). If there's a blank space in your name, convert it to an underscore ( ).

- If you don't know your username, you can get it simply by clicking on "How to Login" on the main WebCT site, then filling in the requested information.
- 4. Type in your Password

   Your initial password will be your
  date of birth; use the form
  YYYYMMDD (e.g., 19800503). For
  security reasons, change your
  password the first time you log in.
- 5. Click on the course called: Faculty of Law Curriculum Questionnaire

If you are unable to login, please contact the WebCT Support Team at: webct@mcgill.ca







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# ANNIE MACDONALD LANGSTAFF

# COLLATERAL DAMAGE:

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS & CHEMICAL WEAPONS

ISABELLE HELAL, LL.B., LL.M.

ASSISTANT COORDINATOR, WOMEN'S RIGHTS PROGRAMME
RIGHTS & DEMOCRACY

Although prohibited by international law, States have used chemical weapons at various times in the last century, causing severe harm to

MARCH 15 @ 1:30 P.M.
ROOM 202 NCDH
humans and polluting the environment. The nature of harm caused to women by chemical weapons has only recently been exposed, and is

evidenced by the reproductive health problems that Vietnamese women endured as a result of the use of chemical weapons during the Vietnam War. The speaker argues feminist methods are important to the assessment of women's experiences of chemical warfare, and international law's capacity to address those experiences.

NAMED IN HONOUR OF THE FIRST WOMAN LAW GRADUATE AT MCGILL (1914), WHO WAS DENIED THE RIGHT TO PRACTISE IN QUEBEC BECAUSE OF HER GENDER, THE WORKSHOPS PROVIDE A FORUM FOR SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND PRACTICAL INSIGHTS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES.

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FLIFRS 2001 - 2002 SORKSHOP

# Important Information for All Graduating Students

(LAW I & II there is also something here for you!)

e have news to report on the graduation ball, convocation ceremony, convocation reception and nominations for class valedictorians. But first, a little background information:

The grad committee has been working diligently to raise funds for the grad ball. We have been fortunate enough to have the help of many of your generous colleagues who baked goodies, bought law clothing, sent roses, partied at Club 737 and played hockey in the name of this worthy cause! We thank you all.

We would also like to thank Pino and Matteo, Molson, Stikeman Elliott, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg and Ogilvy Renault. Their donations helped make the Thrilla at McGilla event a success.

Tous ces efforts de financement visent à vous offrir des billets au coût le plus abordable possible et à permettre au plus grand nombre de finissants de participer à cet événement.

### 1. Graduation Ball

This year's grand event will take place April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott Chateau Champlain in downtown Montreal. The cocktail will be hosted by Dean Leuprecht, followed by dinner and dancing in the Marriott ballroom.

Tickets MUST be purchased in advance and will be sold March 18<sup>th</sup> through March 28. A member of the grad committee will be set up in the

Atrium everyday during that period from 12:30-13:30. We will require partial payment of \$50 a person. Payments must be made in cash only. The balance must be paid either April 8th, 9th or 10th, in the Atrium between 12:30-13:30. The balance of payment will be between \$35-\$45, making the total ticket price between \$85-\$95. This includes the cocktail, a three-course meal and (loads!) wine with dinner. There will be a cash bar during the dance. Notez que cet événement est très spécial et que vous méritez de célébrer en grand avec vos collègues.

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience the two-installment payment plan may cause you. This method is necessary due to the unpredictable size of this year's graduating class (and those attending the ball). This uncertainty makes the precise cost of the event extremely difficult to predict (the funds we raise subsidize the tickets price —the larger the turnout, the less we can subsidize each ticket). The first installment will allow us to calculate attendance and finalize a per person cost and plan this event most efficiently.

Students may request seating arrangements at the time of final payment. Seating charts will be available for tables of ten.

Special arrangements can be made for vegetarian, Kosher and other dietary requirements. Please notify the Grad Committee of any special requests at the time of the <u>first</u> payment. We will be happy to accommodate you.

### 2. Invitation to LAW I & II

Pour tous ceux et celles de LAW I et LAW II, vous êtes invités à célébrer avec les finissants en soirée (apres le souper). Des billets pour la soirée seront en pré-vente au coût de 20\$. Il sera aussi possible de vous en procurer à l'entrée au coût de 30\$.

This ticket gives you admission to the after dinner dance and party. Cash bar.

Les billets seront en vente auprès de votre comité du bal du 18 au 28 mars entre 12H30 et 13h30 dans l'Atrium.

### 3. NAT IV and LAW III Valedictorians

Also part of the McGill tradition, is the selection of Valedictorian representatives for both the graduation ball and convocation ceremony. The class Valedictorian should be a student who demonstrates enthusiasm, participation, leadership and overall good spirit!

Students can submit nominations to the Grad Committee from March 18<sup>th</sup> through March 22<sup>th</sup>, between 12:30 and 13:30, in the Atrium. Students will then vote amongst the most frequently nominated candidates, during the *LSA* election period (March 27, 28).

A first and second place Valedictorian will be chosen from each NAT IV and LAW III (students may vote for candidates in their own class only). Please note that only graduating LAW III students may be nominated and vote.

The first place NAT IV and LAW III Valedictorians will each speak at the convocation ceremony. The second

place NAT IV and LAW III Valedictorians will each give a speech and toast at the graduation ball

### 4. Convocation Ceremony

Convocation will take place June 14th, at Currie Field House, at 10:00 AM.

Students may bring as many guests as they wish (within reason, of course). Students will be required to confirm the number of guests in the weeks prior to the event. The Grad Committee will provide you more details as more information becomes available.

Students are required to pick up their gowns and line-up card on June 13th, between 9:00 and 18:00. Arrangements can be made for someone else to pick up your gown and card, if they have your McGill ID card. Location and additional details to follow!

### 5. Convocation Reception

The Faculty will host a convocation reception, on the evening of Thursday, June 13th, in Chancellor Day Hall All graduating students are invited and permitted to bring two guests. Again, the Grad Committee will provide you with more details as more information becomes available.

The Committee can be contacted at the following email addresses:

Darlene Corrigan dcorril@po-box.mcgill.ca
Véronique Faucher vfauch@po-box.mcgill.ca
Ayana Hutchison
hutchia@lsa.lan.mcgill.ca
Valérie Lemieux
lemieuv@lsa.lan.mcgill.ca

### INVITATION AU VOYAGE

# Latin American

Law Students Association (LALSA)

# **COFFEE HAUS**

Thursday, 14 March, 2002



Couldn't fly down South for reading week?

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### live Ritmos Cubanos!

Oscar y Narciso
will be bringing us the sunny breeze of
their island for an afternoon of pure enjoyment!

Come and let yourself unwind!

Since music cannot be unaccompanied, the *Invitation au Voyage* will be complemented with **empanadas** and **burritos** (1\$/ea).

There will always be a segment of the law school population that is **distinct** from others in their class.

# EVERYBODY OUT OF THE POL

Academic superiority, business sense and confidence set them apart, yet these are not the only **qualities** by which they are defined. It is not so much who they are, but **where they want to** 

go that will separate them from the crowd. These are the students who will achieve their goals with Goodman and Carr LLP.

To learn more about the Goodman and Carr LLP student program, contact Joanne Schaefer at 416.595.2437 or visit www.gocarr.com.

# High Taxes = Evil

by Pablo E. Bustos. Law III

That government is best which governs least, because the people discipline themselves.

Thomas Jefferson

hen a government taxes its popula tion, it is commit ting a violent act. What it is essentially saying is the following – "Give us your money, or go to jail. If you don't want to go to jail, we will get armed people to do what they have to do to drag you into the cage. So pay up."

History is abound with examples of tax collectors being equated with thieves. St. Matthew of the New Testament was considered to be a sinner because he was a tax

collector, and Jesus was held out to be a nice guy because, among other things, he gave Matthew a second chance to redeem himself. He allowed Matthew to live with him as an Apostle, after he gave up tax collecting.

Tax collecting in ancient times was, of course, different than in modern times. Tax collectors did not collect equally from everyone, or according to a formal system based on one's income, but rather wandered around using violence to get money wherever they could, donating a set amount of the money they collected to those they were collecting for, and pocketing the rest. Those paying taxes under this system rarely, if ever, saw the money they paid contributing directly to the amelioration of their

own lives. Often taxes were collected for the sole purpose of supporting the opulent lifestyle of aristocrats and/or to maintain the same armies used to collect the taxes.

In modern times, taxes are seen differently in Canada and in other modern industrialized countries. However, taxing remains a violent act. For every cent that is taxed, violence, or the threat of violence, is used. For every cent that is taxed, liberty is constrained.

By now most readers would correctly assume that I dislike taxes. However, even I must admit that, in the current Canadian context we live in, taxes are sometimes necessary. Schools must be built, roads maintained, and soldiers armed.

The sole purpose of this article

# Call for Quid Volunteers! **Breathe New Life Into the Quid!**

Much as we (the Editors of the Quid) love our publication, many of us will be leaving next year. The time has come to choose our successors.

Please write a letter of interest to <u>quid novi@hotmail.com</u> by the end of March if you are interested in any of the following positions.

We have provided a description of each position and the qualifications that the "ideal candidate" would have. Don't worry about it if you don't have all the qualifications for a position; we're flexible. Even if we can't give you your first choice position, don't worry — we won't turn you away. The more people help with the Quid, the better a publication it

### 1) Editor-in-Chief\*:

Duties: Organizes the editing, layout and publication of the Quid.

The ideal candidate:

- Believes in free speech and shudders at the thought of unnecessary censorship and editorial interventions
- Has reading knowledge of English and French as well as the capacity to respond to basic inquiries in both languages
- Either knows how to use PageMaker or is prepared to learn to use PageMaker C.
- Either knows how to use image software or is prepared to learn to use image software d.
- Is able to spend 6 hours on the weekend and approximately 2 hours during the week working on the Quid\*
- \* Note: this year, there were two Editors-in-Chief, each of whom spent 6-8 weekend hours and 2 school-week hours on every edition she did. A division of labor can be arranged for next year.

### 2) Layout Editor\*:

Duties: Does the Layout for the Quid Each Week.

The ideal candidate:

- Either knows how to use PageMaker or be prepared to learn to use PageMaker.
- Either knows how to use image software or is prepared to learn to use image software b.
- Is able to spend 6 hours on the weekend working on the Quid\*
- \*Note: this year, there were two Layout Editors, each of whom spent 6 weekend hours working on the Quids he or she did. A division of labor can be arranged for next year.

### 3) Managing Editor:

Communicates with potential advertisers and manages Quid finances. Duties:

The ideal candidate:

- Has the ability to add and subtract
- b. Is organized
- Is bilingual C.

### 4) **Editors**:

Duties: Proof-read the articles sent to the Quid.

The ideal candidate:

- Believes in free speech
- Has an excellent grasp of English and/or French
- Is willing to spend 1-2 hours Friday evenings (after 6pm) proof-reading submissions

### Web Editor:

Duties: Improves and maintains the Quid web site.

The ideal candidate:

- Is familiar with basic web editing
- Is prepared to spend 2-3 hours a week working the Quid website
- Knows or is willing to teach him/herself to use Secure Shell, the secure ftp program used by the Faculty of Law C. Network.

is to make the point that, while some amount of taxing is necessary in the current Canadian context we live in, taxing remains a violent act that constrains liberty, and thus its use must be limited and its violent nature recognized. money to pay for the personal livelihood of Jean Chretein's friends in Shawinigan, of which many have criminal records. I don't want to give money to maintain a hotel in Shawinigan that is of dubious commercial value. I don't want to

# I wish that everyone could get along, that money wasn't needed, and that we could all live like they do in Star Trek.

Unfortunately an ideology that taxes are good, rather than a necessary evil, has spread throughout much of Canada, and other portions of the globe. It is an ideology that is based on the assumption that the government can solve all problems, rather than being a tool to fix a limited amount of problems, or manage a specifically defined list of activities.

One of my better friends is a medical student who is also very religious. Although he had to borrow money in student loans, and although during his undergrad he had to work in a Subway to make ends meet, this person still contributed, voluntarily, 10% of what little money he made during the year to his church, which used the contributions it received to, among other things, donate to charity. My friend is also vehemently opposed to the current levels of taxation in Canada.

People often equate those who want low taxes as being mean.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Equating those who want a high level of taxation as being nice, and those who want a low level of taxation as being mean, is both simplistic and wrong. Personally, I want a low level of taxation, not because I don't want to give but because I don't want to give to the government.

I don't want to be forced to give

opposite to the ideologies I believe in. I don't want politicians arguing about the merits of funding this or that social program, and forgetting amidst the turmoil of these debates that taxing is a violent activity; forgetting that once the decision to tax is made, people have no choice in whether they will or will not pay.

Soon I will be leaving Canada, to live in warmer climes. Although I will undoubtedly miss much of what the Canadian lifestyle has to offer, there is one thing I won't miss, namely the political ideology that forgets the violence that tax is based on.

The National Action Committee for the Status of Women is a special interest group that receives tax dollars. If a Canadian taxpayer does not support this, or other similar publicly funded interest groups, through taxes, violence will be used against this taxpayer. The only difference between this and a thief holding up that same taxpayer in an alley for his money is the intention of the perpetrator. The end result is the same, the person must pay or suffer the violent consequences.

I was in the minority in Canada in that I favoured Bush II to Gore in the last U.S. Federal election/ Judicial decision. I was in favour of Bush II's plan to grant illegal immigrants amnesty, and was also in favour of Bush II's plan to lower taxes.

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Politicians are corrupt. The less money they have the better. If I want to help others, I'll do that on my own time. I'd prefer that than sending money to Shawinigan so that Chretien's goons can party up and maintain their soon-to-be bankrupt hotels.

It's not that I don't want to give, it's just that I don't want to give to the government. Or more precisely, I don't want to give to the government any more than what is required to maintain the essential communal services (i.e. roads, schools, police, prisons, armies,...).

I realize that my philosophy is a sad one. I know that it is based on an extreme form of cynicism. I know that it requires accepting that the government and politicians are corrupt. I wish that everyone could get along, that money wasn't needed, and that we could all live like they do in Star Trek; that we could live in a universe without money, and where everyone works to better themselves and better society.

Until that day, which I believe will never arrive, keep my taxes low, my freedom high, and the level of government violence, or threats of violence, used to extract money from me to a minimum.

# The Jewish Law Students Association

has invited Prof Rex Brynen from McGill's Department of Political Science to speak on Wednesday March 13 at 12:30 pm in Room 101 NCDH.

The title of his discussion is "The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: How We Got here and Where We're Headed".

It is sure to be insightful and thought-provoking.

# FASKEN O

We invite students interested in 2003 summer postions to visit us at the March 18th Careers Day.

Drop by and meet Kelly Callon-McLean, Shelly Feld and Bruce Treichel and explore our Toronto Student Program including our unique summer student secondment opportunities.

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# The Joys of War: a.k.a. Always Look on the Bright Side of Life

by Pablo E. Bustos, Law III

War is bad. It is an activity that comprises two or more groups of people devoting part, sometimes most, of their energy and skills to destroying each other.

Even before I came to law school I had heard of "the rules of war." However, I thought then, as I do know, that such a concept was oxymoronic. How could there be rules for such a barbaric and lawless enterprise?

The rules of war are not written in law books but rather in books of military strategy and tactics, in economic theories that help sustain wartime economies, and more importantly for the purpose of this article, sometimes in the natural laws of science.

An old adage states "necessity is the best teacher," and many scientific advances have come out of the challenges imposed on societies during war. Rocketry, canned food, the internet, morphine, nuclear power, and a myriad of other inventions have, at least in part, martial origins.

In contemporary times, Canada and other countries are fighting a War on Terrorism. Although being in a state of war is always bad, I try to look on the bright side. Maybe good things can come out of this war, at least good from a scientific viewpoint.

The U.S. military is by far the strongest military power today, and in the history of mankind. It also plans, and has been planning, to make the gap between its military strength and that of other nations even wider by investing heavily in military research and development.

Some of these technologies are just plain cool. For example, in the recent, and still ongoing, war in Afghanistan pilotless remote control drone planes were used. These

drone planes were used. These drones flew over Afghanistan, taking pictures for intelligence gathering, and a drone is even thought to have killed a major Al-Qaeda leader.

The U.S. is planning several other military motivated scientific breakthroughs, most notably its plan to build a huge missile defence shield to defend the U.S., and presumably all of North America, from incoming nukes.

an optimist. Bush II's plan may lead to the militarization of space, and then, alas, an incentive to conquer outer space will finally have been created. The colonization of the New World was motivated by economic greed and a desire to proselytize European values, but no such motivating factors have projected man to colonize space.

Why would someone want to colonize space? I really can't think of

plan may find little value in these objectives, but if Bush II gets his way missile defence is going to happen anyways, so you might as well look on the bright side of this new reality.

Once I went to the zoo and saw monkeys playing and having a good time. If monkeys are happier than humans, which they may or may not be, then maybe evolution is overrated. If being as happy as possible is the purpose of life, maybe men should have stayed as monkeys. Similarly, maybe man shouldn't go into space, but if its going to happen anyways you might as well look on the bright side of this new reality.

The SETI program was developed to send radio messages to outer space, in the hope aliens would receive them and answer back. This very expensive project may have had a dubious purpose, but many scientific spinoffs came from it. Bush II's missile defence shield will probably also have many useful scientific spinoffs, as will many of the new technologies that have been developed, and are continuing to be developed, to fight the War on Terrorism.

Sometimes great challenges lead to great results in confronting these challenges. Sometimes war is good for scientific advancements.

# Colonizing space is unnecessary, but it's also the next step for man to take.

When I first heard of Bush II's plan to build this defence I was reminded of Ronald Regan's Strategic Defence Initiative (i.e. Star Wars), which never materialized and which was to blow up incoming nukes through laser beams coming from satellites in space.

At first I thought Bush II's plan to build a missile defence shield was wacky, and perhaps even motivated by the help it would give to the military industrial complex that helped finance Bush II's Presidential campaign, as opposed to being motivated for the good of the people of the United States, or the people of the world in general.

Generals are said to be always fighting the last war, as was seen by the cavalry charges in WWI, which galloped into the incoming fire of the newly created machine gun. If someone wanted to nuke the U.S., why would they use a missile that would be shot down when they could just smuggle smaller tactical suitcase sized nukes into the U.S., and then explode them? It is for these reasons that I was initially opposed to what will be an extremely expensive plan to defend against incoming ICBMs.

On the other hand, I try to be

a good answer for this. However, I can't think of a good answer for why people have children, which cost a lot, create a lot of problems, and are really unnecessary from an individual level, although society as a whole would end fairly soon if no one had babies. In fact, there are many human things humans do that have no real reason for being.

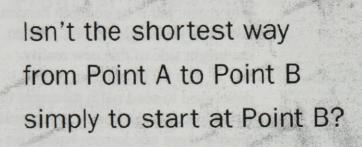
Colonizing space is unnecessary, but it's also the next step for man to take, and now Bush II's missile defence plan may give humanity, or at least a portion of it, a compelling reason to start colonizing the non-earth universe.

The Pentagon is now tentatively planning putting weapons into space by 2012-2015, to attack other satellites and / or to shoot laser beams to destroy incoming nukes. If this Bush II like mentality continues, who knows what is possible. Maybe one day the moon will serve as a base for controlling these space weapons, a base that would be difficult for any terrorist or invading army to attack.

The weaponization of space will increase the research of space, and increase the presence of humans in space. Both those opposing and condoning Bush II's missile defence

# Solution to the Chess Problem

Solution
The rook on E8 moves to E3. Black makes any move.
White mates accordingly.



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